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Cape of Good Hope
Parliament
Legislative Council
Select Committee on Special
Grant to Immigration Agent,
and on Immigration Loan Account
Report



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CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

REPORT 1881

OF THE

SELECT COMMITTEE

ON

Special Grant to Immigration Agent,

AND ON

Immigration Loan Account.

Printed by Order of the Legislative Council.

AUGUST, 1888.

1911

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

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ORDER APPOINTING COMMITTEE,

31st July, 1888.

Ordered:—That the Returns and Papers laid on the Table of the Council on 14th June and 26th July, 1888, in respect to the payment made to the Immigration Agent, and other matters, be referred to a Select Committee, consisting of the Commissioner of Crown Lands, Messrs. Ebdon, Steytler, Botha, Heatlie, Neethling and the Mover, for investigation and report; and that the same Committee report on the state of the Loan raised for Immigration purposes, under Act 35 of 1879, with power to examine witnesses and call for papers.

REPORT

OF THE

SELECT COMMITTEE appointed by Order of the Legislative Council to report on the Returns and Papers laid on the Table of the Council on 14th June and 26th July, 1888, in respect to the payment made to the Immigration Agent, and other matters, and as to state of the Loan raised for Immigration purposes under Act 35 of 1879, with power to examine witnesses and call for Papers ;—the Committee consisting of the COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS AND PUBLIC WORKS, and Messrs. EBDEN, STEYTLER, BOTHA, HEATLIE, NEETHLING, and HOFMEYR.

Your Committee having carefully considered the papers laid on the table of the Council in connection with the payment of £250 to Captain Risler as Secretary to the Immigration Commission, and having taken further evidence on the matters referred to them, beg to report :—

1. That in May, 1887, the sum of £250 was paid to Captain Risler as “a gratuity for services in connection with Immigration.”

2. This gratuity is stated in a letter of 25th April, 1887, to have been paid in acknowledgment of the services rendered during the previous ten years in the cause of immigration, more especially in connection with the settlement of Germans on the Cape Flats.

3. Since 1877 Capt. Risler has received, in addition to this amount, an allowance of £60 a year, which was originally granted to him as Secretary to the Immigration Board appointed to receive the German and other European immigrants introduced under the arrangements made by the Government with Mr. Wm. Berg, of Cape Town, and with Messrs. Goddefroy and Sons, of Hamburg.

4. The members of this Board were relieved of their duties on the 23rd October, 1878, but Capt. Risler's services were continued, in order that he might bring to an early close the transactions of the Board.

5. Under authority of Act 35 of 1879 the sum of one hundred thousand pounds was borrowed for the purpose of introducing immigrants into this Colony.

6. The immigration provided for under this Act has practically ceased for several years.

7. According to the Report of the Controller and Auditor-General, there remained of the sum so raised a balance of £9,475 13s. 10d., unexpended on the 30th June, 1887.

8. The special grant of £250 made to Captain Risler has been paid out of the funds raised under this Act, and without the previous sanction of Parliament having been obtained.

9. Your Committee are of opinion that this amount should not have been paid out of the Immigration Loan Fund but required the previous authority of Parliament, and will have to be voted.

10. Your Committee are further of opinion that the annual allowance of £60 made to Captain Risler as Secretary to the Immigration Commission, together with all other payments made for this service, should cease at once to be paid out of the funds raised under Act 35 of 1879, and that the sums remaining unexpended should be transferred to such other loan account as Parliament shall direct.

J. H. HOFMEYR,
Chairman.

Committee Rooms,
Legislative Council,
7th August, 1888.

MEMORANDUM BY THE COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS.

I agree with the statement of facts contained in the first eight clauses of the Committee's Report ; but I hold that the payment of £250 made to Captain Risler as a gratuity for services performed in connection with the Immigration Act No. 35 of 1879, is a proper charge against the Immigration Loan in precisely the same manner as was the yearly allowance of £60 made to the same officer for similar purposes. But whether this opinion be correct or otherwise, it appears in evidence that this expenditure will be submitted in the Auditor-General's Report for the current year as an expenditure requiring, from that officer's point of view, to be specially voted by Parliament. Such being the case, I am of opinion that it is both inexpedient and premature now for a Committee of one branch of the Legislature to express an opinion, and thus to anticipate the decision of a future Parliament before the full report of the Auditor-General has been submitted.

I further agree that the services of Capt. Risler in connection with Act 35 of 1879 should be dispensed with at the earliest possible date, but as there are still cases of assisted passages for immigrants, especially for mechanics, artisans and skilled labourers in connection with the requirements of the Railway Department, I do not think it advisable to have the unexpended balances of the Immigration Loan transferred to other purposes.

F. SCHERMBRUCKER.

PROCEEDINGS OF COMMITTEE.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON PAYMENT TO IMMIGRATION AGENT, AND STATE OF LOAN RAISED UNDER ACT 35 OF 1879.

Wednesday, 1st August, 1888.

PRESENT :

| | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| The Commissioner of | Mr. Neethling, |
| Crown Lands, | „ Heatlie, |
| Mr. Hofmeyr, | „ Steytler. |
| „ Botha, | |

1. Resolved,—That Mr. Hofmeyr be Chairman of this Committee.

2. Order of Council of 31st July read, referring to the Committee—

(a) Return as to payment of £250 to Captain Risler as Immigration Agent. [Appendix A.]

(b) Further Return as to nature of the special services rendered by Captain Risler as Immigration Agent. [Appendix B.]

3. Resolved,—To examine Mr. H. H. McNaughton, Assistant Commissioner of Crown Lands and Public Works.

4. Mr. McNaughton examined.

5. Resolved,—To examine Captain Risler and the Auditor-General.

6. Adjourned until Friday, the 3rd August, at 10·30 a.m.

Friday, 3rd August, 1888.

PRESENT :

Mr. HOFMEYR (Chairman),

| | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| The Commissioner of | Mr. Steytler, |
| Crown Lands, | „ Ebden, |
| Mr. Neethling, | „ Botha. |

1. Minutes of last meeting read.

2. Captain Risler examined.
3. The Auditor-General examined.
4. The following letters were referred to the Committee:—
 - (a) Letter of 25th January, 1877, appointing Immigration Board. [Appendix C.]
 - (b) Letter of 23rd October, 1878, relieving members of their duties on Immigration Board, and continuing to Captain Risler the allowance of £60 a year until the transactions of the Board are closed. [Appendix D.]
 - (c) Letter of 25th July, 1887, authorising payment of a gratuity of £250 for services in connection with Immigration during the previous ten years. [Appendix E.]

5. Committee in deliberation.

6. Resolved,—That the gratuity of £250, paid to Captain Risler, was not provided for by Act 35 of 1879, and requires therefore to be voted.

That the allowance of £60 per annum as Secretary to the Immigration Commission, and all other payments out of the sum raised under Act 35 of 1879 should cease, and that the amount remaining unexpended should be transferred to such other Loan Account as Parliament shall direct.

Monday, 6th August, 1888.

PRESENT :

Mr. HOFMEYR (Chairman),

| | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| The Commissioner of | Mr. Neethling, |
| Crown Lands, | „ Botha, |
| Mr. Ebdon, | „ Heatlie. |
| „ Steytler, | |

1. Minutes of last meeting read.

2. The Chairman submits the following draft Report :—

Your Committee having carefully considered the papers laid on the table of the Council in connection with the

payment of £250 to Captain Risler as Secretary to the Immigration Commission, and having taken further evidence on the matters referred to them, beg to report :—

1. That in May 1887, the sum of £250 was paid to Captain Risler as “a gratuity for services in connection with Immigration.”

2. This gratuity is stated in a letter of 25th April, 1887, to have been paid in acknowledgment of the services rendered during the previous ten years in the cause of immigration, more especially in connection with the settlement of Germans on the Cape Flats.

3. Since 1877, Capt. Risler has received, in addition to this amount, an allowance of £60 a year, which was originally granted to him as Secretary to the Immigration Board appointed to receive the German and other European immigrants introduced under the arrangements made by the Government with Mr. Wm. Berg, of Cape Town, and with Messrs. Goddefroy and Sons, of Hamburg.

4. The members of this Board were relieved of their duties on the 23rd October, 1878, but Capt. Risler's services were continued, in order that he might bring to an early close the transactions of the Board.

5. Under authority of Act 35 of 1879, the sum of one hundred thousand pounds was borrowed for the purpose of introducing immigrants into this Colony.

6. The immigration provided for under this Act has practically ceased for several years.

7. According to the Report of the Controller and Auditor-General, there remained of the sum so raised a balance of £9,475 13s. 10d. unexpended on the 30th June, 1887.

8. The special grant of £250 made to Captain Risler has been paid out of the funds raised under this Act, and without the previous sanction of Parliament having been obtained.

9. Your Committee are of opinion that this amount should not have been paid out of the Immigration Loan Fund but required the previous authority of Parliament, and will have to be voted.

10. Your Committee are further of opinion that the annual allowance of £60 made to Captain Risler as Secretary to the Immigration Commission, together with all other payments made for this service, should cease at once to be paid out of the funds raised under Act 35 of 1879, and that the sums remaining unexpended should be transferred to such other loan account as Parliament shall direct.

Committee in deliberation.

The Commissioner of Crown Lands moved as an amendment:—That the following words be added to the second paragraph, viz.: It also appears from the evidence that this special gratuity was granted partly in order that the allowance drawn by Captain Risler, as a member of the Immigration Board, should be at a rate equal to that allowed to the members of the East London Immigration Board.

Amendment put and Committee divided :

| Content, 2. | Non-content, 4. |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| The Commissioner of | Mr. Ebden, |
| Crown Lands, | „ Steytler, |
| Mr. Heatlie. | „ Neethling, |
| | „ Botha. |

Whereupon amendment negatived.

The Commissioner of Crown Lands moved :—That paragraph 9 be expunged, viz.:—“9. Your Committee are of opinion that this amount should not have been paid out of the Immigration Loan Fund, but required the previous authority of Parliament, and will have to be voted.”

Amendment put and Committee divided :

| Content, 1. | Non-content, 5. |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| The Commissioner of | Mr. Ebden, |
| Crown Lands. | „ Steytler, |
| | „ Neethling, |
| | „ Botha, |
| | „ Heatlie. |

Whereupon amendment negatived.

Mr. Steytler moved :—To omit the words “and will have to be voted.”

Amendment put and Committee divided :

| Content, 2. | Non-content, 4. |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| The Commissioner of | Mr. Ebden, |
| Crown Lands, | „ Botha, |
| Mr. Steytler. | „ Neethling, |
| | „ Heatlie. |

Whereupon amendment negatived.

Mr. Steytler moved :—That in paragraph 10, the words “at once” be omitted, and the words “if possible at the end of the year,” inserted in lieu thereof.

Amendment put and Committee divided :

| Content, 3. | Non-content, 3. |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| The Commissioner of | Mr. Ebden, |
| Crown Lands, | „ Neethling, |
| Mr. Heatlie, | „ Botha. |
| „ Steytler. | |

The numbers being equal, the Chairman gave his casting vote with the Non-contents.

Whereupon amendment negatived.

Tuesday, 7th August, 1888.

PRESENT :

Mr. HOFMEYR (Chairman),

| | |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| The Commissioner of Crown | Mr. Botha, |
| Lands, | Mr. Heatlie, |
| Mr. Ebden, | Mr. Neethling. |
| Mr. Steytler. | |

1. Minutes of last meeting read.

2. Committee in deliberation on draft Report.

3. Resolved,—That the draft Report, as submitted be adopted, and that the following Memorandum, put in by the Commissioner of Crown Lands (who votes for the Report), be appended thereto :—

I agree with the statement of facts contained in the first eight clauses of the Committee's Report ; but I hold that the payment of £250 made to Captain Risler as a gratuity

for services performed in connection with the Immigration Act, No. 35 of 1879, is a proper charge against the Immigration Loan, in precisely the same manner as was the yearly allowance of £60 made to the same officer for similar purposes. But whether this opinion be correct or otherwise, it appears in evidence that the expenditure will be submitted in the Auditor-General's Report for the current year, as an expenditure requiring, from that officer's point of view, to be specially voted by Parliament. Such being the case, I am of opinion that it is both inexpedient and premature now for a Committee of one branch of the Legislature to express an opinion, and thus to anticipate the decisions of a future Parliament before the full Report of the Auditor-General has been submitted.

I further agree that the services of Captain Risler in connection with Act 35 of 1879 should be dispensed with at the earliest possible date, but as there are still cases of assisted passages for immigrants, especially for mechanics, artisans, and skilled labourers, in connection with the requirements of the Railway Department, I do not think it advisable to have the unexpended balances of the Immigration Loan transferred to other purposes.

4. Resolved,—That the Chairman be instructed to report accordingly.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE.

COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION AGENT AND IMMIGRATION LOAN ACT 35, 1879.

Wednesday, 1st August, 1888.

PRESENT :

The Hon. J. H. HOFMEYR (Chairman),

| | | |
|---------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| The Hon. F. Schernbrucker | | The Hon. R. P. Botha, |
| (Commissioner of Crown | | The Hon. T. T. Heatlie, |
| Lands and Public Works), | | The Hon. M. L. Neethling. |
| The Hon. J. G. Steytler, | | |

Mr. H. H. McNaughton, Assistant Commissioner of Crown Lands and Public Works, examined.

*Mr. H. H.
McNaughton.*

Aug. 1, 1888.

1. *Chairman.*] You are the Assistant Commissioner of Crown Lands and Public Works?—I am.

2. You are acquainted with the object of this Committee?—I have read the Resolution appointing the Committee.

3. By the 3rd section of the Immigration Loan Act, 1879, it is provided that “An account showing the amount
“of all stock and debentures issued from time to time under
“the authority of this Act, and of the moneys realised by
“the issue and sale thereof, and of the expenditure of all
“such moneys or of so much thereof as shall have been
“expended, and an account of the amount of such stock and
“debentures for the time being outstanding, and of all
“such sums thereof as shall from time to time be bought in
“and cancelled, if any, vouched for by the Controller and
“Auditor-General, shall be laid before both Houses of
“Parliament within fourteen days after the commencement
“of the next session thereof, and the like accounts within
“fourteen days after the commencement of each succeeding
“session thereof.” I wish to know who has to see that this
is carried out?—It forms part of the duty of the Controller
and Auditor-General.

4. Where do these accounts appear?—In the Annual Report of the Controller and Auditor-General [G. 4—'88], and in the Statements of Loans raised under the several Loan Acts [G. 38—'88].

Mr. H. H.
McNaughton.
Aug. 1, 1888.

5. Is not the Auditor-General's Report a report on the revenue and expenditure of the year ending about a twelve-month before the meeting of Parliament?—Yes.

6. Do you think that meets the requirements of the Act? Is it not the duty of Government under the Act to place before Parliament the accounts made up to the latest reasonable date before the commencement of the Session?—There is no date specified up to which the accounts are to be brought. We follow the general rule of adopting the financial year as the period for which such accounts are to be made up. In this form they are submitted by the Controller and Auditor-General in his annual reports.

7. Who keeps the accounts of receipts and expenditure for this service?—I do of the expenditure, but not of the Loan Account.

8. But there are receipts as well?—Yes, these are included in my account; all other particulars required by the Act are compiled by the Controller and Auditor-General.

9. I see that the Auditor states that the receipts are chiefly contributions to aided passages. Who receives these contributions?—Some are received in my office and some in the office of the Agent-General in England.

10. Where can we get information as to the details?—I can frame an account showing all the details if you think it necessary.

11. And one showing the state of the Loan Account, the amount expended and the disposal of the unexpended portion?—I know nothing about that, except what is contained in the Controller and Auditor-General's report. I can furnish an account of the expenditure in connection with this service, but I have nothing to do with the Loan Account.

12. Who furnishes these accounts?—The Controller and Auditor-General, who is an officer of Parliament. He has before him the Agent-General's accounts and other material from which he frames his statement.

Mr. H. H.
McNaughton.
Aug. 1, 1888.

13. Am I to understand that you do not think it is the duty of your department to lay the accounts before Parliament which are required by the Act?—Certainly it is not the duty of my department. The statements will be found in the two papers I have already referred to [G. 4—'88, page 267, and G. 38—'88, pages 4 and 5.] These statements are drawn up by the Controller and Auditor-General.

14. Do you consider that the information contained in these papers is a sufficient compliance with the Act, which requires that an account of "the expenditure of all such moneys or of so much thereof as shall have been expended . . . shall be laid before both Houses of Parliament within fourteen days after the commencement of the session?"—Yes; and they were laid on the table within fourteen days of the meeting of Parliament as required by the Act.

15. And they are always a year behind?—Always about a year behind.

16. Cannot this be remedied?—Not without altering the whole system laid down by the Audit Act.

17. In the return laid on the table on the 26th July, a further account of expenditure brought up to 30th June, 1888, is submitted; was this obtained from the Auditor-General?—No; the account attached to that return was made up by me as the Accounting Officer administering the expenditure of the funds provided by the Act.

18. It is correct?—Yes.

19. Has it been audited?—The accounts up to the 30th June, 1887, are absolutely correct and vouched for by the Auditor-General, after that date they are correct subject to final audit. The examination of the Controller and Auditor General is now proceeding.

20. This shows the contributions to aided passages up to 30th June to have been £76,467 9s. 3d.?—Yes.

21. Of this amount I find that in the year 1886-87 the sum of £937 18s. 3d. was expended and in the year 1887-88 the expenditure was £1,239 17s. 0d.?—Yes.

22. There is a further expenditure on advances to immigrants for seeds and implements amounting to £1,878 4s. 7d.?—Yes.

23. Can you give the Committee the particulars with regard to these items?—If you require them from the year 1879 it will take time and there will be a good deal of clerical work. Mr. H. H. McNaughton.
Aug. 1, 1888.

24. Will it take much time to give us the particulars for the last year?—No, the amount was small.

25. Can you give the information required for the last two years?—I can furnish the last year's return first, and that for the previous years afterwards, if time permits.

26. This statement will show both debit and credit account?—Yes, if desired.

27. There was an Immigration Commission appointed, how many members did it consist of, and who were the members?—There was a Board, consisting of three members. Mr. Burrowes, the Collector of Customs, was the Chairman; the other members were Mr. W. E. Moore and Captain Risler, who also acted as Secretary.

28. How were they appointed?—By the Commissioner, shortly after the contract was entered into with Mr. W. Berg for the introduction of immigrants from Germany and other European countries in the year 1877, I think.

29. Is that Board still in existence?—No.

30. How is that?—After the settlement of the immigrants introduced under Mr. Berg's contract, the necessity for continuing the Board no longer existed, and their services were in consequence dispensed with, but Captain Risler continued to act as agent, as there were questions continually cropping up.

31. How was the Board abolished?—The members were thanked for their services, and informed that they were no longer required.

32. Was Captain Risler's services as a member of the Board dispensed with at the same time?—No, Captain Risler's services have been continued up to the present time.

33. What is the nature of the services he has been required to perform?—References are being constantly made to him of cases for report. For instance, only yesterday two applications made by immigrants for additional plots of ground were referred to him for enquiry and report.

Mr. H. H.
McNaughton.

Aug. 1, 1888.

34. The Government was asked to lay on the table of the Council a return showing reports on special services rendered by Captain Risler within the last two years from 30th June, 1886, to 30th June, 1888. From the Return furnished it appears that Captain Risler did nothing in the year 1886-87, and that in the year 1887-88 he furnished two reports on cases of very little importance. Is that so?—These cases were furnished, not as a return of the work done by Captain Risler, but as samples of the work he has to perform.

35. But the Return called for all reports made by Captain Risler, and the Committee take it for granted that this Return gives all the information asked for?—The Committee will see from the Memorandum attached to the Return that “the services performed by Capt. Risler, in connection with immigration, are all ‘special’ as distinguished from the ordinary duties of his office as Deeds Registry Surveyor. No distinction can be drawn between the former in that respect. Their general character is set forth in the return to the Honourable the Council’s Resolution of the 11th June, 1888. Two or three specific cases are now added for the Honourable Council’s information.”

36. Then the Return does not comply with the terms of the Resolution adopted by the Council. How are we to know what this gentleman has done? What objection is there to laying copies of these Reports on the Table?—My estimate is that it will take a clerk twelve months and will cost £100 to give copies of all correspondence with Captain Risler.

37. The Council asked for the Reports during the last two years, and three reports are given?—These are only samples.

38. Are the duties so laborious that it is necessary this annual expenditure should be continued?—Captain Risler is peculiarly well qualified for the office. He is intimately acquainted with the settlement from its first beginning, he speaks the language of the immigrants, and is in every way qualified to be of great assistance.

39. Does he regularly visit these people?—Not lately.

But he is always at hand to listen to and investigate any complaints, and to remove grievances in so far as may be.

Mr. H. H.
McNaughton.

Aug. 1, 1888.

40. Is it his duty then to listen to the complaints of the immigrants?—Not only that. Often there are applications for a grant of a piece of land adjoining an allotment. The matter would then be referred to Captain Risler for inspection and report.

41. *Mr. Botha.*] Where is his office?—In the office of the Registrar of Deeds.

42. *Chairman.*] When he goes to inspect these allotments or to visit these people does he go at Government expense?—Yes; his expenses for transport are paid, and any other out of pocket expenses.

43. Are these expenses paid out of the fund borrowed under this Act?—Yes.

44. Do the Returns presented to Parliament show this?—No; they would be too voluminous, but I can give the details.

45. Do you not think that his services could be dispensed with?—If Captain Risler is not employed we must appoint some one else in his stead. We must have a person qualified to perform the duties now required of him.

46. What necessity is there for appointing any person to perform these duties? Is not the work complete?—There is an amount of about £1,800 for advances still outstanding.

47. Is that not lost?—No. I think some part will be recovered.

48. But still the greater part is lost?—Yes, through death and other causes.

49. Do you consider it necessary that this office should be continued for the purpose of looking after this money?—That, with the other duties I have mentioned.

50. *Mr. Neethling.*] What is his salary as Immigration Agent?—£60 per annum.

51. *Chairman.*] He has also received £250 in recognition of services rendered in the cause of immigration during the last ten years. Was this amount paid on his own representations?—No. It was paid by order of the Commissioner, and with the approval of the Premier.

Mr. H. H.
McNaughton.

Aug. 1, 1888.

52. Is there any record of these services which were taken into consideration when making this grant in addition to the £60 per annum already received as salary?—I do not know how it happened, but when the Immigration Boards were formed the remuneration for the members of the Cape Town Board was fixed at £60, while the members of the East London Board were allowed £100. Captain Risler always complained that while there was far more work thrown upon him he was receiving £40 a year less than the members of the East London Board. It is not unlikely that this was taken into account when the grant of £250 for services extending over ten years was made.

53. Did Captain Risler ever make this complaint in writing?—Not in writing, to the best of my recollection, but it was always a sore point with him.

54. When did he first complain of this?—He mentioned the matter many years ago.

55. *Mr. Heatlie.*] Had Captain Risler the superintendence of the location of Germans at Worcester?—Yes.

56. *Chairman.*] As a fact Government immigration has ceased?—Yes, practically.

57. And there is a balance of £9,475 13s. 10d. of the amount raised on loan not expended. Can you give the Committee any information as to the position of that balance. Why is it not surrendered?—That I cannot say. It is a matter of policy with which I have nothing to do.

58. Have you any further information as to the grounds on which this £250 was paid?—I believe it was partly in settlement of what was felt to be a grievance with reference to the unequal payments of the members of the Cape Town Board and of the East London Board, and partly in recognition of valuable services.

59. Out of what fund is it paid?—Out of the Loan.

60. Are the receipts always the same?—No, they fluctuate according to the amount of expenditure.

61. If the balance on the Loan of £9,475 is spent, there will be no fund out of which to pay this salary of £60?—No.

62. *Mr. Steytler.*] Are your receipts greater than your expenditure?—During the last two years the receipts were £1,508 and the expenditure £2,177.

63. Is there any amount spent on immigrants?—Yes. *Mr. H. H. McNaughton.*
 For skilled workmen engaged for service in the Railway Department; and it sometimes happens that when a good man has served his contract term, he is allowed aided passages for his family, by way of inducement to him to settle in the Colony, and to continue in the service of the Government. *Aug. 1, 1888.*

64. But there is no system of immigration?—No.

65. *Chairman.*] If this balance is surrendered, it will have no effect upon immigration because that has been stopped?—There are certain expenses to be considered. For instance, until very lately a clerk was employed in the Agent-General's office, whose duty it was to give information to persons making enquiries as to the Colony. The enquiries were constant, and required a person at hand to give the necessary information.

66. Is that officer still employed?—No.

67. *Mr. Heatlie.*] Has Capt. Risler had to report during the last two years upon more than the three cases mentioned in the Return laid on the table?—There are dozens of cases in addition.

68. The Return does not say so?—These cases were only samples showing the nature of the work.

69. *Chairman.*] Have you no reports from Captain Risler? Could not Captain Risler give a statement of the work of the office?—He can tell generally what he has been doing, but his record is probably not quite complete, for some of his reports were written in my office and elsewhere, where he had not the means of taking copies. If the Committee wish to have a complete record of what he has done, I can furnish it, but of course its preparation will take time.

70. In the Return showing the special nature of the services rendered by Captain Risler [C. 5—'88], it is stated that the appointment is likely to continue as long as it may be necessary to call upon Captain Risler for special services in connection with the location of German and other settlers in the Cape Flats, and then it proceeds to state the nature of the services. The first is "the reception, lodgment, and location of immigrants on their arrival." As no more immigrants are expected, I suppose

Mr. H. H.
McNaughton.

Aug. 1, 1888.

he has no new duties connected with this?—There are still cases unsettled. There was one the other day where a German immigrant who had not taken his land when he arrived, but had gone into service, applied for land and had to be located.

71. *Mr. Botha.*] Are they entitled to land if they come out as servants?—Many who had no means on their arrival took service, and after they had saved a little money they wished to have their plot of land.

72. *Chairman.*] The next special duty mentioned is “the keeping of records connected therewith.” Who keeps these records?—Captain Risler.

73. Then follows the periodical inspection, the assistance of settlers with money, implements, seeds, &c. By whose authority does he do this?—The Commissioner’s.

74. What authority is there for the expenditure of any money for these purposes?—The Commissioner is responsible to Parliament for the due appropriation of money provided for the expenditure in his department.

75. The next duty is “proceeding to Europe to make selection of additional immigrants.” Has he been to England?—Yes.

76. Does he go now?—No, not now.

77. Is he required to go since immigration has been discontinued?—He is not required to do so now.

Friday, 3rd August, 1888.

PRESENT :

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| Hon. J. HOFMEYR (Chairman), | |
| Hon. Commissioner of | Hon. Mr. Botha, |
| Crown Lands and | Hon. Mr. Neethling, |
| Public Works, | Hon. A. Ebden. |
| Hon. J. G. Steytler, | |

Capt. T. F. N. Risler examined.

Captain
T. F. N. Risler

Aug. 3, 1888.

78. *Chairman.*] You are aware of the objects of this Committee?—Yes.

79. What appointment did you hold on the Immigration Board?—I was appointed as Commissioner with Mr. Bur-

rowes and Mr. W. E. Moore. At first, being the junior-member, I took the secretaryship, and subsequently to that—
 I don't recollect the exact date—the Government in recognition of my services granted me a salary of £60 a year for my services.

Captain
T. F. N. Risler
 Aug. 3, 1888.

80. Were any records kept at the time of that Board?—
 Oh yes.

81. There were properly kept records?—Yes.

82. In whose possession were they?—In mine.

83. That Board is now defunct?—Yes, the Board ceased on the 25th October, 1878.

84. Since that what were the nature of your duties?—
 Entirely in connection with settling immigrants, drawing leases, preparing reports on land questions, and general intercourse between the immigrants and the Government.

85. Up to what time?—Up to now.

86. Have there been any particular reports within the last two years?—Oh yes.

87. How many?—I cannot say.

88. We have got a return from the Commissioner of Crown Lands office which shows three reports?—There must have been more than that. They go through different offices.

89. Can you show us from your books what reports you have made?—As a rule I do not keep copies of the reports; only of letters.

90. Can you show any draft reports?—Yes, this week alone I have four or five.

91. I mean between June, 1878, and 1888. Under whose control are you now?—The Crown Lands Department. The communications are in that office.

92. But in what respect are you under the control of that department, except that the communications are sent there for reference?—Well, in respect to matters that crop up between the immigrants themselves in reference to the land question.

93. Do the immigrants come to you now in reference to these questions?—Yes. It is principally to these matters, on which no report bears, that my time has been given up.

94. Does it take very much of your time?—Yes, I have devoted all my private time to it.

Captain
T. F. N. Risler
—
Aug. 3, 1888.

95. What do you mean by your private time?—They come to my house.

96. Do they go there often?—Yes.

97. That would be in the afternoon and evening?—Yes, and especially on Saturday evenings and Sundays.

98. *Mr. Botha.*] How long have they been coming to you?—From the first moment they settled here in 1877.

99. And they still come for advice and assistance?—Yes. They were settled under Act 10 of 1877 under quitrent tenure; first of all under lease, but if they had paid up and occupied the land for ten years they were entitled to hold under quitrent title. The Act also provided that after five years occupation and on paying up for the remaining five years they should receive a quitrent grant. Subsequently to that an Act No. 37 of 1885 was passed when the immigrants were introduced under the agency of Mr. Berg, of Cape Town, entitling them to a freehold grant. All these conversions and settlements of the land questions came into my work.

100. *Col. Schermbrucker.*] And they are still going on?—Continually,

101. *Chairman.*] Do you pay money direct?—No. I pay some transport expenses out of my own pocket and get refunded.

102. Nothing else?—No.

103. Then you know nothing of the credits and debits in this immigration account?—No, I do not know what the items are.

104. There is an account showing the money expended in 1886-'87 and in 1887-'88?—I suppose it includes the Eastern Province.

105. Then you can give us no information about this?—No.

106. And no money goes through your hands?—No, except so far as repayment of advances are concerned.

107. Immigration under this Act has now ceased?—Yes.

108. There have been no new immigrants for some time?—For about $3\frac{1}{2}$ years.

109. Have you anything to do with the recovery of money. By this account there are amounts advanced for

immigrants' implements. Who authorised these?—They were authorised by me; they were included in the agreement. Captain
T. F. N. Risler
Aug. 3, 1888.

110. They have to be repaid?—Yes.

111. Have you to recover them?—Yes.

112. It is said that a considerable loss may be expected on the account. Is that so?—Yes; some of the people have left and some are dead. I believe in the Eastern Province advances were made in cash, but I objected to that, and got the implements and seed here in the cheapest market, and for these they signed a bond.

113. Do they still get seed?—No.

114. They are not now supposed to get seed nor implements?—No.

115. What really is there then at this moment you have still to do for them?—Well, the settlement of different cases arising out of the conversion of quitrent grants, signing leases, &c.

116. That is all?—Yes, the whole of my duty is confined now to the settlement of the land question and seeing that only immigrants who are entitled under Act No. 37 of 1885 to freehold grants receive such titles.

117. Surely that can be done in the Surveyor-General's office?—They know nothing about it there.

118. And from your records they could not be sufficiently guided?—Of course there is the correspondence in German besides the translation of communications from the Eastern Province.

119. So that in case of your death they could go on no further?—Oh, yes, they could go on.

120. Then you think they would be able to find their way?—They ought to.

121. It would not be impossible?—I should think not.

122. Now will you tell the Committee the circumstances under which the gratuity of £250 was paid to you?—It was remuneration given to me by Government for services rendered.

123. Did you make any representation to the Government?—Not officially. I had spoken about it and said that by giving up my time entirely to these immigrants I lost a

Captain
T. F. N. Risler
Aug. 3, 1888.

great deal of private practice. In fact I was desirous of giving up the appointment, but Mr. Laing desired me to retain it.

124. But the £250 were not given to you by Mr. Laing; you received that lately?—Yes.

125. How was it you received it in England?—It was more convenient to me.

126. Were you aware when you left here that you would have it?—Oh, yes.

127. You had a letter to say that you would get £250 in England?—Yes.

128. Can you hand us that letter?—Certainly. I can get it for you.

129. There was no representation on your part in writing asking for this?—No.

130. *Col. Schermbrucker.*] You are aware that the Immigration Commissioners in East London were paid at a higher sum, do you know what it was?—Yes. £100.

131. And you were paid £60?—Yes.

132. And was it on account of this that you made representation?—Yes. Partly on account of that and partly on account of my private time.

133. *Mr. Ebdon.*] How many German immigrants are there now under your control?—About 70 or 100 families. A number have taken out their freehold titles.

134. *Chairman.*] How many do you think have taken out their titles?—I cannot say. Their time is not up yet.

135. *Mr. Ebdon.*] And has all your time been taken up with these German immigrants?—Yes. Besides that there are the military pensioners, and frequently I have to deal with cases in the German language which have to be rendered into English.

136. Do you think, now, it is necessary to have a special officer retained to look after the interests of these German immigrants?—I think so. They are constantly coming to me for assistance.

137. It is about ten years since these immigrants were first introduced?—Yes.

138. Now, don't you think that the work you have hitherto performed in connection with these German immigrants, could be done by some officer of the depart-

ment?— I suppose that would be for the consideration of Government. I don't know if there would be anyone available for the purpose.

Captain
T. F. N. Risler
Aug. 3, 1888.

139. *Col. Schermbrucker.*] It must be one who understood the language of the people?—Yes.

140. *Chairman.*] Is it fair to the people that if such an officer is necessary they should have to go to him in the evenings and on Sundays, that they should be limited to after-office hours?—In cases where they have required my presence I have gone to them. In one case I left town at three o'clock in the morning to go down and make provision for a sick man to go to the hospital.

141. But is it fair that these people should have to depend upon your overtime?—That appears to suit them best, for at other times they are employed.

142. When was this case you spoke about?—Some years ago.

143. How many?—About five.

144. *Mr. Ebdon.*] What I want to throw out is this; these German immigrants have now been in the country for a long time, and surely they must be able to take care of themselves in common with other members of the community. We want to know why then an officer should continue to receive £60 a year for looking after this particular class of immigrant. Can you throw any light upon that question?—Of course, their leases are convertible after ten years of occupation.

145. But surely their leases speak for themselves, and by taking them to the Surveyor-General's office whatever was necessary could be done, or they might employ a professional man to look after their interests just like other members of the community. What I want to know is why they should be specially singled out to have a particular officer to look after their interests?—I cannot say; it is a Government decision. One great difficulty was in regard to the language.

146. *Col. Schermbrucker.*] You had not only the German immigrants on the Flats, but there were also some at Hex River?—Yes. I had to deal with those immigrants who came from East London.

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T. F. N. Risler
Aug. 3, 1888.

147. *Chairman.*] How many families are there at Hex River now?—There is only one there now.

148. And how many are there at Goudini Station?—There are still about five or six there.

149. And at the Paarl?—Only one. At Eerste River there are four families now settled.

Hon. C. Abercrombie Smith examined.

Hon. C.
Abercrombie
Smith.
Aug. 3, 1888.

150. *Chairman.*] You are the Auditor-General?—Yes.

151. You have seen Act 35 of 1879?—Yes.

152. It provides that certain returns have to be laid before Parliament?—Yes.

153. Whose duty is it to give those returns?—Mine.

154. Ought they not to be more detailed than we find them in your books?—I scarcely think so. Every Loan Act has a clause of that character, and to give greater details in my loan statements and in my annual reports would, I am afraid, make them too long and cumbrous. As it is my reports are very voluminous.

155. Of course the Statement for 1887-88 we don't see till next year?—No.

156. Then how do we find these details?—For instance, there is this item of £250, unless we see a detailed statement there may be many other items of £250 paid away. Can they pass, or can you stop them?—Certainly I would report on them. You must rely upon the Auditor-General, who is the servant of the Parliament, to bring to the attention of the Parliament every item of expenditure that requires notice. This £250 would have been brought to the notice of Parliament. In fact I have already ruled that it is unprovided for by the Act, and requires to be voted.

157. This other expenditure, advances for seeds and implements, are they under the Act?—They may not be strictly covered by the Act, but at the same time they are not unreasonable, and they are mentioned in my annual reports; thus, for instance, on page 267 of my accounts for this last year, there is the following clause: "Expenditure on advances to immigrants for seed and implements, total expenditure during all the previous years £1,878 4s. 7d."

Then there is this foot note: "A portion of this outlay may be recovered, but it is thought there will be a considerable loss in the account."

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Abercrombie
Smith.

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158. I suppose these particulars come from you originally?—The Act accounts I publish are generally (though made out in my office) in accordance with the accounts submitted to me by the accounting officers concerned.

159. You say that under the Act no detailed information need be given?—I think not. If there are particular cases in which details are wanted, they can always be had.

160. Is the expenditure of this money in the discretion of the Commissioner?—Entirely; subject, of course, to the provisions of the Act.

161. Can you explain this matter of the £250. Ought it to have been voted by Parliament specially?—I am of opinion it should have been. This £250 was paid by the Agent-General to Capt. Risler in May, 1887, as a gratuity for services rendered in the cause of immigration, and the payment was supported by Government authority, but I queried it as follows:—"As this is an Act Account, and no Appropriation Account is rendered annually, it will be necessary for the information of Parliament to give some explanation regarding the circumstances under which this exceptional expenditure was incurred." The answer was that the letter of authority under which the payment was made gave sufficient information on the subject, and if Parliament required further information it would be obtained in the usual way by examination before the Committee on Public Accounts. In reply to that I called attention to the 8th, 20th, and 23rd sections of the Audit Act, and then obtained some further particulars.

162. The £60 a year salary, ought that to be voted, or is it a fair charge against the revenue?—It is not strictly provided for, but it may be called incidental expenses connected with the administration of the funds; and such expenses are held to be fairly covered by the Act.

163. We have been informed that this immigration loan is applied in aided passages for people in connection with the railway service; can that be done?—Yes; I consider it can be so applied. The schedule to the Act 35 of 1879

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requires that the money shall be applied for the introduction of the following classes of immigrants:—Agriculturists, to be located on certain Crown lands in the Colony, &c., and their families; agricultural labourers, *mechanics, artisans, and other skilled workmen* who may be willing to emigrate to the Colony under contract of service with employers of such labour, &c.

164. According to the account we have a balance of £9,000 to the credit of the Immigration Fund?—Yes.

165. *Mr. Ebdon.*] Now that immigration is stopped ought not that amount to be transferred to general revenue to be dealt with?—Well, there would be a certain amount of impropriety in transferring it to general revenue, for it is not proper that the proceeds of loans should be used for ordinary revenue purposes. An illustration of such cases will be found in my report for this year on pages 300 and 301, where there appear certain credit balances £14,000 odd no longer required for constructing certain lines of telegraph which were surrendered by the accounting officer.

166. Then they would go into general revenue?—Hardly. The accounting officer simply so to speak washes his hands of them, but they do not go into general revenue unless and until formally paid into revenue. They stand as balances on Account No. III. By a Bill now before Parliament, it is proposed to appropriate this £14,000 to the construction of other lines of telegraph, and I take it to be a more proper course that such money should be applied to purposes for which money might be properly borrowed than to pay it into general revenue.

167. *Mr. Steytler.*] Why cannot that be done in this case, and if the Government still require small sums for immigration purposes they could be put on the Estimates in the usual way?—That of course is a matter for the Government. But Government should not surrender the balances until they have really finished with the expenditure.

168. If it were in the general revenue the money used would come under the special notice of Parliament?—So it will in any case. It will appear in my annual report. You must rely upon the Auditor-General to call the atten-

tion of Parliament to all matters, whether in Acts accounts or Votes accounts to which special attention should be directed.

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Abercrombie
Smith.

Aug. 3, 1888.

169. *Mr. Ebdon.*] What would be the effect, supposing that this Committee recommend that as this amount standing to the credit of the Immigration Fund is no longer required for the service for which it was voted it should be surrendered. What construction would the Government put upon that?—They might perhaps direct it to be paid into revenue.

170. That would probably be a short way of dealing with it?—Yes; but the question would arise whether it is a proper thing to pay in the proceeds of borrowed money into ordinary revenue.

171. Well, we find that the amount here to the credit of this fund is becoming small by degrees and beautifully less, and we wish to put a stop to it. We therefore say that the money is no longer required for the purposes for which it was raised and it ought to be handed over and surrendered. I want to know how are we going to get it transferred to some other account?—Well it can be done by your recommending that by Act of Parliament the balance be appropriated to some other purpose, such as railways, for which money is required. For instance, if for railways £100,000 is required, you say here is £10,000 and only a further sum of £90,000 will be necessary. This has virtually been done this session in regard to telegraphs. A Bill might be introduced authorising the transfer of balances not required for one purpose to another like purpose, or even an unlike purpose it may be.

172. Then when the account had been transferred and there were no longer any funds available to pay such claims as Captain Risler's, Government would have to come to Parliament for the money to be voted?—In either case they would have to come to Parliament to get the money voted.

173. But in the case of this £250, they did not come to Parliament to have the money voted?—No, not beforehand, but supposing they had meant that amount to be charged to vote, they would simply have issued a Premier's warrant for it, and it would have been paid as unauthorised

19 MINUTES OF EVIDENCE TAKEN BEFORE THE SELECT
COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION LOAN ACCOUNT.

Hon. C.
Abercrombie
Smith.
—
Aug. 3, 1888.

expenditure. I may point out that the receipts on this account for the past year are to a large extent repayments of advances. There have been no further advances made for seed for some time, and really but for this exceptional item the balance on the account would have increased.

174. There can be no refund in reference to the £250 or the £60 a year?—No, unless Parliament should order it, or in the case of the £250 should decline to vote the amount.

APPENDIX.

[A]

RETURN AS TO PAYMENT OF £250 TO CAPTAIN RISLER AS IMMIGRATION AGENT.

Return to a Resolution adopted by the Honourable the Legislative Council on the 11th June, 1888, as follows :—

“ For a Return, showing by whose authority an amount of £250 has been paid by the Agent-General on the 27th May, 1887, to Captain Risler, ‘ for valuable services rendered as Immigration Agent during the last ten years,’ as therein stated, and to what fund the amount has been charged.

“ Whether the amount has been voted by Parliament or whether a Vote is to be taken thereon. Also a Return shewing the several amounts paid to Captain Risler as Immigration Agent, during all the time he has held the appointment, and whether the appointment is to continue. Also a Return, shewing the nature of the above services rendered in each year.”

Office of the Commissioner of Crown Lands
and Public Works, 14th June, 1888.

1. The sum of £250 referred to in the Resolution was paid to Captain Risler on the authority of the Prime Minister of the Colony.

2 and 3. The amount has been charged to the funds provided for Immigration under the authority of Act No. 35 of 1879 ; no Vote is to be taken for the payment.

4. The amounts paid to Captain Risler, in his capacity as Immigration Agent, are as follows :—

From 1st March, 1877, to 31st May, 1888 (with the exception of the period from 8th November, 1882, to 23rd November, 1883, during which Captain Risler was absent from the Colony on special service connected with Immigration), an allowance at the rate of £60 per annum was paid.

For the period excepted, the official salary of Captain Risler as Deeds Registry Surveyor, £500 per annum, was paid by the Accounting Officer of Crown Lands and Public Works, and charged to the funds devoted to the service upon which he was specially engaged. Captain Risler, for this period, drew in addition an allowance of 30s. per diem for personal travelling expenses.

5. The appointment is likely to continue so long as it may be necessary to call upon Captain Risler for special service in connection with the location of German and other settlers on the Cape Flats.

6. The nature of the services rendered has not materially differed year by year. They may, however, be broadly classified as under :—

- (A) The reception, lodgment and location of immigrants on arrival.
- (B) The keeping of records connected therewith.
- (C) The periodical inspection of the location for the purpose of watching the progress of the settlement, and of assisting the settlers with advice, and in the most urgent cases with money, agricultural implements, seeds, &c., under due authority.
- (D) The proceeding to Europe to make selection of additional immigrants.
- (E) The allotment of land to immigrants who have elected to seek employment before taking up land under their contracts ; the recovering of advances made, either in money or in kind, and generally the furnishing of information on all questions affecting the interests of the immigrants which may be brought to the notice of Government.

[B]

**FURTHER RETURN AS TO PAYMENT OF £250
TO CAPTAIN RISLER.**

MEMORANDUM.]

Resolution of the Honourable the Legislative Council, adopted on the 24th July, 1888, in regard to certain payments to the Immigration Agent and a Return of Expenditure under Act No. 35 of 1879.

The statements of account required by Section No. III of Act No. 35 of 1879, will be found in the following papers presented to Parliament by command of His Excellency the Governor, viz. :—

G. 4—'88, page 267, and
G. 38—'88, pages 4 and 5.

A further account of expenditure, brought up to the 30th June, 1888, is submitted herewith.

The services performed by Captain Risler, in connection with Immigration, are all "special" as distinguished from the ordinary duties of his office as Deeds Registry Surveyor. No distinction can be drawn between the former in that respect. Their general character is set forth in the return to the Honourable the Council's Resolution of the 11th June, 1888. Two or three specific cases are now added for the Honourable Council's information :—

Case 1. Immigrants Meyer—Krukenberg.

Case 2. Immigrants Riedel—Behm.

Case 3. Immigrant Rabe (in progress).

The special payment of £250 was made to Capt. Risler for the following among other reasons :—

1. Because it was found that the allowance of £60 per annum, originally fixed as the remuneration of Capt. Risler, was incommensurate with the duties he was required to perform.

2. Because it was known that the performance of the duties necessitated the sacrifice of much leisure time which had previously been devoted to remunerative work of a professional character.

3. Because the Government appreciated the success which had attended the location of the immigrants under Captain Risler's supervision, and were desirous of marking that appreciation in a substantial manner.

H. H. McNAUGHTON,
Assistant Commissioner.

26th July, 1888.

[C]

APPOINTMENT OF IMMIGRATION BOARD.

The Assistant Commissioner to Mr. F. W. Burrowes, Sub-Collector of Customs, and Capt. Risler, Cape Town.

Office of the Commissioner of Crown Lands
and Public Works, Cape Town,
No. 10/45.] 25th January, 1877.

GENTLEMEN,—With reference to the arrangements which have recently been made by the Government with Mr. Wm. Berg, of Cape Town, and with Messrs. Goddefroy and Sons, of Hamburg, for the introduction into this Colony of certain German and other European Immigrants, I am directed to inform you that you have been appointed to act as a Board to receive them on their arrival at this port.

You are requested to report generally upon the arrangements made in each vessel for the accommodation of the immigrants and to ascertain if they have any complaints to make.

The *Wandrahen* is the first of the vessels conveying these immigrants. She left Hamburg on the 1st ultimo, and may therefore be expected to arrive here shortly. Mr. Berg, of Cape Town, is the agent here. Copies of the correspondence with Mr. Berg are enclosed for your information.

I have, &c., &c.,

(Signed) C. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Commissioner.

F. W. BURROWES, Esq.,
Sub-Collector of Customs, and
Capt. RISLER, Cape Town.

[D]

ABOLITION OF IMMIGRATION BOARD AND
ALLOWANCE OF £60 TO SECRETARY.

Office of the Commissioner of Crown Lands
and Public Works, Cape Town,
No. 10/644.] Cape of Good Hope, 23rd October, 1878.

SIR,—I am directed to inform you for communication to the Board, that as the introduction of immigrants into the Colony in large numbers is for the present discontinued, the Commissioners for Immigration at Cape Town are relieved of the duties they have hitherto discharged ; and in conveying to the Commissioners the thanks of the Government for their past services, I am to intimate that in recognition of these services the Commissioner has pleasure in authorising the payment to Messrs. Burrowes and Moore of an allowance at the rate of fifty pounds a year each from the dates of their respective appointments. Mr. Burrowes, from the 25th January, 1877, and Mr. Moore, from the 20th July, 1877, to the present date ; and in requesting you to bring to an early close the transactions of the Board with a continuance while you are so engaged of the allowance of £60 a year, which has been attached to the duties of the Secretaryship of the Board, which, while also a Commissioner, you have been good enough to undertake.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) C. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Commissioner.

The Secretary to the Immigration Board,
Cape Town.

[E]

GRANT OF £250 TO CAPTAIN RISLER.

Office of the Commissioner of Crown Lands
and Public Works,
25th April, 1887.

No. C. 1508.]

Gratuity of £250 for Services in connection with Immigration.

SIR,—I have much pleasure in informing you that the Government, being desirous of marking in a substantial manner their sense of the valuable service which, during the last ten years, you have rendered in the cause of immigration, more especially in connection with the settlement of Germans on the Cape Flats, have authorized me to pay to you the sum of £250, which accordingly I hold at your disposal.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(Sd.) H. H. McNAUGHTON,
Assistant Commissioner.

Capt. Risler,
&c., &c., &c.,
Deeds Office.

 [F]

Office of the Commissioner of
Crown Lands and Public Works,
Cape of Good Hope,
7th August, 1888.

No. B 1055.]

“ Immigration Agent and Immigration Loan.”

SIR,—In compliance with the promise made on the occasion of my examination before the Select Committee on “Immigration Agent and Immigration Loan,” on 1st instant, I have the honour to forward for the information of the Committee a statement in detail of receipts and disbursements on account of Immigration during the financial year

1887-88; also a statement in detail of the item "Expenditure in Advances to immigrants for seeds and implements, £1,878 4s. 7d.," figuring in the general account submitted in response to the resolution of the Honourable Council, adopted on the 24th ultimo.

I very much regret that time has not admitted of a similar elaboration of the account for 1886-'87, but the work is in hand, and will be completed as speedily as possible.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

H. H. McNAUGHTON,
Assistant Commissioner.

P.S.—The Immigration Board, to which reference is made in my evidence, was appointed on the 25th January, 1877, and consisted at first of Mr. F. W. Burrowes, Collector of Customs, and Captain Risler; but on the 20th July of the same year a third member was added—Mr. W. E. Moore, of this city.

H. H. McN.

The Clerk to the
Honourable the Legislative Council.



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